

November 23, 1992

GMP # 11

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Directors  
Environmental Health Managers  
Environmental Health Supervisors

FROM: David Effert, Technical Services Chief  
Division of Onsite Sewage and Water Services

SUBJECT: Approval for Use - Tuf-Tite Connectors

Tuf-Tite, Inc. has received provisional approval for a period of one year for the use of two new products in Virginia. Provisional approval means that the products can be installed in an unlimited number during the one year period. During that time, please report any problems associated with the use of the product to the Division of Onsite Sewage and Water Services. At the end of the period of conditional use, any reported problems will be reviewed.

At that time, the products will either be approved unconditionally, provisional approval will be extended, or if major problems are reported, the use of the products in Virginia will be rescinded.

The two provisionally approved products are a MF-4 male-female connector, and a FF-4 female-female connector. These pipe connectors have been provisionally approved for the following uses.

The MF-4 male-female pipe connector can be used:

1. To connect 4" diameter corrugated pipe to 4" diameter smooth wall pipe. Note that this connection can occur in two ways. The male end of the connector can fit into a smooth thin wall pipe coupling. This is neither a water tight nor a mechanically snug fit. Therefore, the manufacturer recommends that solvent cement be used on the MF-4 fitting to decrease the likelihood of the fitting pulling out of the thin wall pipe coupling. The MF-4 connector is made of polyethylene which does not develop a watertight seal or bond with PVC pipe. The solvent cement is used only to decrease the likelihood of the fitting pulling out of the thin wall pipe coupling.

According to the manufacturer, the MF-4 connector can also fit directly over 4" diameter thin wall pipe. Note that this is a very tight fit. It is important that the MF-4 connector extend for a distance of not less than 1.25 inches over the thin wall pipe, or the coupling may come off of the thin wall pipe during the backfilling process.

2. To connect 4" corrugated pipe to a plastic distribution box.  
Note that this requires the use of an appropriate plastic seal. (See attached manufacturer's literature).
3. To receive a speed leveler when corrugated pipe is used.  
Note that this requires the use of an appropriate plastic seal. (See attached manufacturer's literature).

The FF-4 female-female pipe coupler can be used:

1. To connect 4" corrugated pipe to 4" corrugated pipe.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (804) 786-1750.

dde/

pc: Division of Onsite Sewage and Water Staff

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**SEWAGE - ONSITE - PIPE - PRODUCT APPROVAL**